

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING

BROOKLYN CITY COUNCIL

December 22, 2014

7:00 p.m.

Present: Mary Balbier
Kevin Tanski
Andy Celcherts
Katie Gallagher
Ron Van Kirk
Kathy Pucci

Absent: Tony DeMarco

Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION by Celcherts, second by Tanski to approve the minutes from the meeting of September 22, 2014.
VOTE RESULTED: *Approve:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk. Abstain: Pucci (did not have time to read them) No: None. **(APPROVED)**

PRESENTATIONS:

Mayor Balbier introduced the winners of the Holiday House Decorating contest and presented them with a gift for their awards. First Place: Mark Kitchen, 4784 Summer Lane; Second Place: Fowler Family, 8704 Memphis Villas Blvd.; Third Place: Sophann Chiv, 9303 Orchard Avenue.

Mayor Balbier presented a Letter of Recognition to Daniel Simko, Brooklyn resident and senior Benedictine football player, for receiving the Father Florian Hudack Award for athletic, academic and personal achievement, and further commending Benedictine on becoming Division 4 State Champions.

PUBLIC SESSION:

None.

President Gallagher apologized for the late start to the Council meeting, the Finance Committee ran over, with multiple items to cover. Councilwoman Pucci will cover it in her Finance report.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES, COMMISSIONS & BOARDS:

Finance Committee (Councilwoman Pucci): The Comm. met at 6:15, and apologized again for it running over, as there was a lot to cover. The Comm. addressed the following: recommended approve the Change Order for the Rec Center locker room floor tiling (increase of \$4,574.43 due to higher moisture level than expected, and the need for a moisture barrier and a warranty; the scope of the project will be reduced to a new total of \$69,121.80); approved another Change Order for tile replacement for locker rooms (due to a contractor error in measuring, and we needed more tile, for an increase of \$1,813.60). She thanked Dir. Verba for all his efforts involving the back and forth relating to these Change Orders. They deferred a request from Chief Zemek for disposal of expired firefighting gear. Recommended: approval of Res. #8 for the 2015 contract with the Board of Health for health services (no increase from last year's cost of \$43,782); first reading of Res. #10, an agreement with Cuini and Panichi for services of our GAAP conversion and preparation of the CAFR, not to exceed \$24,750); approval of Ord. #72, final fund transfers for the year; approval of Ord. #73, amended annual appropriations (General Fund increased \$274,000 – accounts for the \$875,000 in transfers, so a net reduction in expenses); approval of Ord. #74, temporary appropriations (will start meeting in January with directors and by the end of Feb. have permanent appropriation passed); approval of Ord. #75, establishing position of part-time Dispatcher (pay of not less than \$18/hr or more than

\$26.50/hr – in anticipation of the regionalized dispatch center, and supplement our full-time staff); approval of Ord. #76, authorizing a contract with MPEnergy for electricity for street lights (4.747 cents/kwh). Thanked Dir. Enovitch and the Finance Dept. for their efforts in 2014, and Dir. Enovitch for his times meeting with her.

Recreation Board (Councilman Tanski): The next sessions for ice skating lessons begins Jan. 2-March 13, 2015, information for all available at the Rec Center and at brooklynskating.com. Silver Sneakers membership keeps increasing. Recreation monthly and yearly passes are on special (buy monthly, get two weeks free; buy yearly pass, get two months free.) A Customer Appreciation weekend is Jan. 17-18th, with all exercise classes free during that weekend (Jazzercise, Splash, yoga, deep water fitness.) A rep. from Johnson Controls attended the Rec. Bd. meeting and gave a report which proposed a combined heat and power generator for the Center (to help reduce energy costs and potential backup power in an emergency). The cost is approximately \$350-800,000; possibly utilizing HB 300 purchase/savings program.

Zoning Bd. of Appeals (Comm. Kulcsar): The Board met Dec. 18th and approved three variances for ARL Transport at 8215 Clinton Rd. for parking.

School Board (Councilman Celcherts): The Bd. met Dec. 16th and addressed various business and personnel assignments. They approved a necessity to levy a tax renewal for 6 mills on the May ballot, an operating levy to generate \$1,480,000 in property taxes. Polaris also announced they will seek passage of a 0.67 mill permanent improvement levy, which equals \$1.95/month per \$100,000 appraised home valuation, and will bring to Polaris' facility to State minimum standards, and include upgrading labs, classrooms and equipment (their first time in 31 years looking to pass a levy.) Reported that the Brooklyn Cares Program helped 58 families in the community, and thanked everyone for giving. Additional information on the meetings and the schools is available on the school's website. The marching band will perform Jan. 19th at the Cav's game; the musical play Cinderella will be March 5, 6, and 7; boys' and girls' basketball, wrestling and hockey schedules are also on the website. The next Bd. meeting is Jan. 20th, and open to the public.

REPORTS OF COUNCIL:

Mary Balbier: Wished everyone a merry Christmas and happy new year. Congratulated the winners of the Christmas lighting, everyone's made the city look wonderful. Thanked the Cleveland Baptist Church for their Christmas performance, under the direction of Councilman Van Kirk; it was marvelous and expressed the true meaning of Christmas. Recognized the Brooklyn Schools for starting the Brooklyn Cares program a few years ago, to help Brooklyn families in need during the holiday season. Local businesses, organizations, individuals adopt a family (designated by a number, the number of children, food needs, gifts and wrapping paper.) Also recognized three students who come each week and help at the Senior Center, Emani, Isaiah and Michelle (decorate Christmas tree, clean up...) Further recognized resident Andrew Darula, who attends the Senior Center, and is an artist. She displayed a piece of his artwork, and added he has some items available at the Center. She also told a brief story of her restaurant and their contribution to the movie The Christmas Story of providing turkeys for it, and she baked for it.

Kevin Tanski: Thanked the residents who participated in the House Decorating contest, and wished everyone a merry Christmas and happy new year.

Andy Celcherts: The Fire Dept. held a spaghetti dinner benefit for Andrew Star and family, Dec. 12th, with proceeds to the Star family for six year old Andrew. Thanked everyone for coming, helping and/or donated to this. Zounds Hearing (Ridge Park Sq.) announced that from now until end of the year, for every pair of hearing aids bought by a Chamber of Commerce member and/or their employees, they will donate \$100 to the Brooklyn Cares program. As mentioned, congratulated the winners of the House Decorating Contest, and thanked everyone for being part of it. As mentioned, the roads program is getting together for 2015, and while he was out today he saw our Engineer's crew out taking measurements. Wished everyone a wonderful Christmas and new year holiday.

Ron Van Kirk: Thanked Councilwoman Balbier for her kind words, adding he was pleased by the attendance. Thanked the residents for coming and enjoying the fun event to celebrate the true meaning of

Christmas. It was a lot of work, and a lot of fun; and hopes those unable to attend can make it next year. Wished everyone a merry Christmas and a happy new year.

Kathy Pucci: Congratulated winners of the holiday decorating contest, and all that took the time to decorate. Congratulated Daniel Simko on his award and accomplishments. Thanked Firefighter Matt Antal, C Shift, the Chief, and all firefighters for the benefit for the student battling the life threatening illness. Thanked Councilman Van Kirk for sharing his church's Christmas program with the community, and all their time and effort. Wished everyone a merry and blessed Christmas and happy, healthy, prosperous new year.

Katie Gallagher: Echoed thanks to the firefighters and volunteers for raising money for Andrew Star. Also thanked Councilman Van Kirk and Cleveland Baptist Church for their event, it was even better than last year. The singers were amazing. Announced that Gov. Kasich signed 40 Bills last Friday, from the lame duck session, one of which was HB 5, which will change laws governing income taxes for municipalities. Looking over ours, it won't impact ours as much as she thought, as we already have some of those items in it. She'd like to see the loss we will see from the Bill's passage at some point. Wished everyone a merry Christmas, adding a special thanks to the house decorators, because for children it is extra special and makes them very happy.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Albrier: Thanked the decorating winners, but forgot that the committee wanted to recognize Delora is the most decorated street in Brooklyn. There are Brooklyn committees that are sometimes difficult to fill, and he needs someone to serve on the Domestic Abuse Commission and on the Recreation Board. Both are for three year terms. If anyone is interested, contact City Hall. Has had a lot of compliments about the Christmas lights at City Hall, and told Dir. Verba to pass it along. Congratulated Daniel Simko on his award. Wished everyone a merry Christmas and happy new year.

DIRECTORS REPORTS:

Finance Dir. Enovitch: Year to date, General Fund, revenue is \$10,620,000; after transfers to the Budget Stabilization and Economic Development Funds, the year should end with a General Fund balance of \$9,744,352 (an increase of about \$1 million over the ending fund balance last year.) Total cash balance is \$24,300,134.49. Expressed appreciation to his team, especially JoAnn Haig, who has gone through the budget to make sure the dollars spent are accurately and appropriately accounted for, and we end the year on a positive balance in every fund. Also thanked Cindy Simko, the new accounts payable clerk, who pays every bill the city pays (over 500 checks per month), ensuring their paid accurately, and properly approved. Additionally thanked the most important person, Celeste Westfall, recently taken over as payroll clerk, with the most important job in the city of making sure everyone gets paid, on a timely basis and accurately. Expressed appreciation to the Finance team, and the city should be proud of their excellent job reporting the finances, and been recognized the State for reporting excellence, and it will be continued. Wished everyone a merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous new year.

REQUESTS:

Mayor Albrier requests confirmation on the re-appointment of Robin Lawrence and Ruth Scarbro on the Domestic Abuse Commission (terms expire Jan. 1, 2015) to three year terms expiring Jan. 1, 2018. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Gallagher to approve Robin Lawrence to the Domestic Abuse Commission. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Confirm:* Yes: Albrier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. **(CONFIRMED)**

MOTION by Pucci, second by Celcherts to approve Ruth Scarbro to the Domestic Abuse Commission. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Confirm:* Yes: Albrier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. **(CONFIRMED)**

Mayor Balbier requests Council confirmation on the re-appointments of Al Sforzo and Allison Rafter to the Brooklyn Recreation Board (terms expire Jan. 1, 2015) to three year terms expiring Jan. 1, 2018. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Celcherts to approve Al Sforzo to the Recreation Board. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Confirm:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. **(CONFIRMED)**

MOTION by Pucci, second by Gallagher to approve Allison Rafter to the Recreation Board. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Confirm:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. **(CONFIRMED)**

Request from Dir. Verba for a Change Order for \$1,813.60 locker room tiling at the Recreation Center. **MOTION** by Celcherts, second by Van Kirk to approve. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Approve:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. **(APPROVED)**

Request from Dir. Verba for a Change Order for \$4,574.43 for a moisture barrier on the lobby room tiling. (changes scope of the project due to this) **MOTION** by Celcherts, second by Tanski to approve. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Approve:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. **(APPROVED)**

Request from Chief Zemek for approval to dispose of expired firefighting gear (helmets, boots, hoods, gloves, coats, pants more than 10 years past manufacturing date). **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Van Kirk to defer this to the next Council meeting. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Defer:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: Celcherts. **(DEFERRED)**

LEGISLATION:

RESOLUTION 2014-7, Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract with the District Board of Health of Cuyahoga County for Health Services for the year 2015. Amount is \$43,782. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Celcherts to adopt. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Adopt:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. **(ADOPTED)**

RESOLUTION 2014-10, Authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Ciuni and Panichi, Inc. to provide services to the City of Brooklyn for the GAAP Conversion and Comprehensive Annual Financial Report year ending December 31, 2014 not to exceed \$24,750. **(FIRST READING)**

ORDINANCE 2014-72, Authorizing inter-fund transfers and advances during 2014. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Celcherts to Suspend the Rules. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Suspend the Rules:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. *To Adopt:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. **(ADOPTED)**

ORDINANCE 2014-73, Amending the Annual Appropriations. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Celcherts to Suspend the Rules. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Suspend the Rules:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. *To Adopt:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. **(ADOPTED)**

ORDINANCE 2014-74, Temporary Appropriations for 2015. **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Celcherts to Suspend the Rules. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Suspend the Rules:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. *To Adopt:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. **(ADOPTED)**

ORDINANCE 2014-75, Establishing the position of Part-Time Dispatcher in the Dept. of Public Safety. (rate of no less than \$18/hr nor more than \$26.50/hr, payable bi-weekly) **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Celcherts to Suspend the Rules. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Suspend the Rules:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. *To Adopt:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. **(ADOPTED)**

ORDINANCE 2014-76, Authorizing the Mayor to enter into a contract agreement with MP2 Energy NE, LLC as supplier of electric energy for street lighting. Asked if he had any issues with the contract, Dir.

Claussen replied he reviewed, and it's standard language, and he saw no language or sections to cause him to stop the legislation from moving forward. **MOTION** by Van Kirk, second by Celcherts to suspend the rules. **VOTE RESULTED:** *To Suspend the Rules:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. *To Adopt:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. **(ADOPTED)**

Councilwoman Pucci asked if we get the information on this monthly basis? Dir. Verba said he'd ask the Finance Dept., because he does not. She said if not, she would like us to get it monthly so we know where we are.

Pres. Gallagher said Council will go into Executive Session for matters of personnel relating to the Building Dept., with the Mayor, Building Commissioner and Finance Director. She also stated that Council is tentatively scheduled for an Organizational mtg. on Jan. 5th at 6 p.m., subject to change on availability. Councilwoman Pucci asked if they anticipate any questions or update relating to negotiations. (there are none). **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Celcherts to adjourn to Executive Session for matters of personnel relating the Bldg. Dept. **VOTE RESULTED:** *Adjourn to Executive Session:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. **(ADJOURNED TO EXECUTIVE SESSION)**

Council adjourned to Executive Session and then reconvened.

MOTION by Gallagher, second by Balbier to reconvene. **VOTE RESULTED:** *Reconvene:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. **(RECONVENED)**

There being no further business, **MOTION** by Pucci, second by Van Kirk to adjourn. **VOTE RESULTED:** *Adjourn:* Yes: Balbier, Tanski, Celcherts, Gallagher, Van Kirk, Pucci. No: None. **(ADJOURNED)**

Asst. Clerk of Council

President of Council